THE

WEEKLY ENTERTAINER.

For MONDAY, March 3, 1806.

Report of the Medical Council of the Royal Jennerian Society, in Vindication of Cow-Pox Inoculation.

AT a special meeting of the board of directors, held at the Central House of the society, No. 14, Salisbury-square, Fleet-street.

The report of the medical council, on the subject of vaccine inoculation, having been laid before the board,

Resolved,

That the same be immediately printed, under the direction of the medical council, and that they be requested to subjoin their individual signatures to the report for publication.

[Extract from the minutes.]

CHARLES MURRAY, Secretary.

REPORT.

The medical council for the royal Jennerian society having been informed, that various cases had occurred, which excited prejudices against vaccine inoculation, and tended to check the progress of that important discovery in this kingdom, appointed a committee of twenty-five of their members, to inquire, not only into the nature and truth of such cases, but also into the evidence respecting instances of small-pox, alleged to have occurred twice in the same person.

In consequence of this reference, the committee made diligent inquiry into the history of a number of cases, in which it was supposed that vaccination had failed to prevent the small-pox, and also of such cases of small-pox, as were stated to have happened subsequently to the natural or inoculated small-pox.

In the course of their examination, the committee learned, that opinions and assertions had been advanced and circulated, which charged the cow-pox with rendering patients liable to particular diseases, frightful in their appearance, and hitherto unknown, and judging such opinions to be connected with the question, as to the efficacy of the practice, they thought it incumbent upon them to examine also into the validity of these injurious statements respecting vaccination.

After a very minute investigation of these subjects, the result of their inquiries has been submitted to the medical council; and, from the report of the committee, it appears—

1. That most of the cases which have been brought forward, as instances of the failure of vaccination to prevent the small-pox, and which have been the subjects of public attention and conversation, are either wholly unfounded, or grossly misrepresented.

2. That some of the cases are now allowed, by the very persons who first related them, to have been erroneously stated.

3. That the statements of such of those cases as are published, have, for the most part, been carefully investigated, ably discussed, and fully refuted, by different writers on the subject.

4. That, notwithstanding the most incontestible proofs of such misrepresentations a few medical men have persisted in repeatedly bringing the same unfounded and refuted reports and misrepresentations before the public, thus perversely and disingenuously labouring to excite prejudices against vaccination.

5. That in some printed accounts adverse to vaccination, in which the writers had no authenticated facts to support the opinions they advanced, nor any reasonable arguments to maintain them, the subject has been treated with indecent and disgusting levity; as if the good or evil of society were fit objects for sarcasm and ridicule.

6. That when the practice of vaccination was first introduced and recommended by Dr. Jenner, many persons, who had never seen the effects of the vaccine fluid on the human system, who were almost wholly unacquainted with the history of vaccination, the characteristic marks of the genuine vesicle, and the cautions necessary to be observed in the management of it, and were, therefore, incompetent to decide whether patients were properly vaccinated or not, nevertheless ventured to inoculate for the cow-pox.

7. That many persons have been declared duly vaccinated, when the operation was performed in a very negligent and unskilful manner, and when the inoculator did not afterwards see the patients, and therefore could not ascertain whether infection had

had taken place or not; and that to this cause are certainly to be attributed many of the cases adduced in proof of the inefficacy of cow-pox.

8. That some cases have been brought before the committee, on which they could form no decisive opinion, from the want of necessary information as to the regularity of the preceding vaccination, or the reality of the subsequent appearance of the small-pox.

9. That it is admitted by the committee, that a few cases have been brought before them, of persons having the small-pox, who had apparently passed through the cow-pox in a regular way.

10. That cases, supported by evidence equally strong, have been also brought before them, of persons who, after having once regularly passed through the small-pox, either by inoculation or natural infection, have had that disease a second time.

11. That in many cases, in which the small-pox has occurred a second time, after inoculation or the natural disease, such recurrence has been particularly severe, and often fatal; whereas, when it has appeared to occur after vaccination, the disease has generally been so mild, as to lose some of its characteristic marks, and even sometimes to render the existence doubtful.

12. That it is a fact well ascertained, that, in some particular states of certain constitutions, whether vaccine or variolous matter be employed, a local disease only will be excited by inoculation, the constitution remaining unaffected; yet that matter taken from such local vaccine or variolous pustule is capable of producing a general and perfect disease.

13. That if a person, bearing the strongest and most indubitable marks of having had the small-pox, be repeatedly inoculated for that disease, a pustule may be produced, the matter of which will communicate the disease to those who have not been previously infected.

14. That, although it is difficult to determine precisely the number of exceptions to the practice, the medical council are fully convinced, that the failure of vaccination, as a preventive of the small-pox, is a very rare occurrence.

15. That of the immense number who have been vaccinated in the army and navy, in different parts of the united kingdom, and in every quarter of the globe, scarcely any instances of such failure have been reported to the committee, but those which are said to have occurred in the metropolis, or its vicinity.

16. That the medical council are fully assured, that in very many places, in which the small-pox raged with great violence, the disease has been speedily and effectually arrested in its pro-

gress, and in some populous cities wholly exterminated, by the practice of vaccination.

17. That the practice of inoculation for the small-pox, on its first introduction into this country, was opposed and very much retarded, in consequence of misrepresentations and arguments drawn from assumed facts, and of miscarriages arising from the want of correct information, similar to those now brought forward against vaccination, so that nearly fifty years elapsed before small-pox inoculation was fully established.

18. That, by a reference to the bills of mortality, it will appear, that to the unfortunate neglect of vaccination, and to the prejudices raised against it, we may, in a great measure, attribute the loss of nearly two thousand lives by the small-pox, in this metropolis alone, within the present year.

19. That the few instances of failure, either in the inoculation of the cow-pox, or of the small-pox, ought not to be considered as objections to either practice, but merely as deviations from the ordinary course of nature.

20. That if a comparison be made between the preservative effects of vaccination, and those of inoculation for the small pox, it would be necessary to take into account the greater number of persons who had been vaccinated within a given time; as it is probable that, within the last seven years, nearly as many persons have been inoculated for the cow-pox, as were ever inoculated for the small-pox, since the practice was introduced into this kingdom.

21. That, from all the facts which they have been able to collect, it appears to the medical council, that the cow-pox is generally mild and harmless in its effects; and that the few cases, which have been alleged against this opinion, may be fairly attributed to peculiarities of constitution.

22. That many well-known cutaneous diseases, and some scrophulous complaints, have been represented as the effects of vaccine inoculation, when in fact they originated from other causes, and in many instances occurred long after vaccination; and that such diseases are infinitely less frequent after vaccination, than after either the natural or inoculated small-pox.

Having stated these facts, and made these observations, the medical council cannot conclude their report upon a subject so highly important and interesting to all classes of the community, without making this solemn declaration:—

"That, in their opinion, founded on their own individual experience, and the information which they have been able to collect from that of others, mankind have already derived great and incalculable benefit from the discovery of vaccination: and, that it is their full belief, that the sanguine expectations of advantage

vantage and security, which have been formed from the inoculation of the cow-pox, will be ultimately and completely fulfilled."

(Signed)

Ed. Jenner, M. D. president	Everard Home
J. C. Lettsom, M. D. V. P.	Robert Hooper, M. D.
John Ring, V. P.	Joseph Hurlock
Joseph Adams, M. D.	John Jones
John Addington	Thomas Key
C. R. Aikin	Francis Knight
Wm. Babington, M. D.	E. Leese
M. Baillie, M. D.	L. Leese
W. Blair	William Lewis
Gil. Blane, M. D.	William Lister, M. D.
Isaac Buxton, M. D.	Alexander Marcet, M. D.
William Chamberlaine.	Joseph Hart Meyers, M. D.
John Clarke, M. D.	James Parkinson
Astley Cooper	Thomas Paytherus
Wm. Daniel Cordell	John Pearson
Richard Croft, M. D.	George Rees, M. D.
Thomas Denman, M. D.	John Gibbs Ridout
John Dimsdale	J. Squire, M. D.
Henry Field	James Upton
Edward Ford	J. Christian Wachsell
Joseph Fox	Thomas Walshman, M. D.
William M. Fraser, M. D.	Robert Willan, M. D.
William Gaitskell	Allen Williams
William Hamilton, M. D.	James Wilson
John Hingeston	J. Yelloly, M. D.

JOHN WALKER,
Secretary to the Council.

January 2, 1806.

MEMOIRS *of the late* LORD NELSON.

(Concluded from Page 150.)

PUBLIC FUNERAL OF LORD VISCOUNT NELSON.

Copied from the London Gazette, of Jan. 18, 1806.

WITHIN Temple-Bar the procession was received by the right hon. the lord mayor of London, attended by the aldermen and sheriffs, and the deputation from the common council.

The six carriages of the deputation from the common council fell into the procession between the deputation of the great commercial

commercial companies of London, and the physicians of the deceased; a conductor on horseback being appointed to indicate the station.

The carriages of the aldermen and sheriffs fell into the procession between the knights bachelors and the serjeants at law; a conductor on horseback being also there stationed for the purpose, as before.

The right hon. the lord mayor, on horseback, bearing the city sword, was marshalled and placed in the procession between his royal highness the prince of Wales, and the herald of arms, who preceded the great banner, in obedience to a warrant under his majesty's royal signet and sign manual, bearing date the 6th instant, directing garter principal king of arms to marshal and place the lord mayor of London, on the present occasion, in the same station wherein his lordship would have been placed if his majesty had been present.

When the head of the troops arrived at St. Paul's, the light companies entered within the railing, drew up, and remained. The rest of the column proceeded round St. Paul's, down Cheapside, along the Old Jewry, and Coleman-street, to Moorfields, round which they were formed and posted.

The grenadiers quitted the column at St. Paul's, and entered within the railing. The light infantry lined each side of the space from the gate of the church-yard to the door of the church. The grenadiers lined the great nave of the church on each side, from the outer door to the place where the body was deposited, and from thence to the door of the choir. The two corps (who had their arms reversed during the time of their remaining at St. Paul's,) formed two deep for that purpose; and the 2d dragoons, in passing St. Paul's, left an officer and twenty men, who formed up, and remained within the outer gate of the iron railing.

Upon arrival of the procession at St. Paul's cathedral, the six conductors, forty-eight pensioners from Greenwich hospital, and forty-eight seamen and marines of the Victory, ascended the steps, divided and ranged on each side, without the great west door; and the rest of the procession having alighted at the west gate of the church-yard, entered the church, and divided on either side, according to their ranks; those who had proceeded first remaining nearest the door. The officers of arms and the bearers of the banners, with their supporters, entered the choir and stood within, near the door; and all above and including the rank of knights bachelors, as well as the staff officers, and the naval officers who attended the procession, had seats assigned to them in the choir. The lord mayor, with the aldermen and sheriffs, city officers, and deputation from the common council occupied their seats on the north side of the choir. Near the entrance of the church, the dean and preben-

daries, attended by the choir, fell into the procession immediately after the great banner, and before the heralds who bore the trophies; the choir singing the sentence in the office for burial, "I am the resurrection and the life," &c. with the two following sentences, and continuing to sing until the body was placed in the choir.

The body, having been taken from the funeral car, was borne into the church and choir according to the following order:

Richmond herald.

Supporter,
Lieutenant Nicholas Tucker.

THE GREAT BANNER,
Borne by Captain Robert Moorsom.

Supporter,
Lieutenant David Keys.

The gauntlet and spurs, borne by York Herald.
Helm and crest, ——— Somerset herald.
Target and sword, ——— Lancaster herald.
Surcoat, ——— Chester herald.

A gentleman usher, | The coronet on a black velvet cushion, borne by Norroy king of arms, in the absence of Clarenceux. | A gentleman usher.

A gent. usher. Garter principal king of arms, (with his sceptre.) A gent. usher.

CHIEF

CHIEF MOURNER,

Supporter to the chief mourner,	Sir P. Parker, bart.	Supporter to the chief mourner.
Adm. W. Lord Radstock.	Admiral of the fleet.	Admiral S. Viscount Hood.

Six assistant mourners, viz.

Adm. Sir. R. Curtis, kt. and bart.	Adm. Caldwell.
Adm. Sir C. M. Pole, bart.	Adm. R. R. Bligh.
Vice-Adm. C. P. Hamilton.	Vice-Adm. C. E. Nugent.

A gent. usher.	Windsor herald, acting for Norroy king of arms.	A gent. usher.

The banner of emblems.

Supporter, Lieut. G. M. Bligh.	Borne by Captain T. M. Hardy, and Captain Henry William Bayntun.	Supporter, Lt. Andrew King.

Relations of the deceased, viz.

Horatio Nelson, Esq. commonly called Viscount Merton, nephew.	William Earl Nelson, sole brother and heir.
Geo. Matcham, esq. nephew.	Tho. Bolton, esq. nephew.
G. Matcham, esq. brother in law.	T. Bolton, esq. brother in law.

Rev. Robert Rolfe,
Thomas T. Berney, Esq. } Cousins.
Hon. Horatio Walpole,
Hon. George Walpole,

The remainder of the procession followed in the order as before marshalled.

The chief mourner, his two supporters and train-bearer were seated on chairs near the body, on the side nearest the altar; and the six assistant mourners, four supporters of the pall, and six supporters of the canopy, on stools on each side.

The relations also near them in the choir; and garter was seated near the chief mourner.

The body, when placed in the choir, was not covered with the pall, nor the canopy borne over it; the rule in that respect being dispensed with, for the reason before-mentioned. The banner-rolls were borne on each side the body.

The officers of the navy, and the staff officers commanding the troops, were seated near the altar.

The carpet and cushion (on which the trophies were afterwards to be deposited,) were laid by the gentleman usher who carried them, on a table placed near the grave, which was under the centre of the dome, and behind the place which was to be there occupied by the chief mourner.

The coronet and cushion borne by Norroy king of arms, in the absence of Clarenceux, was laid on the body.

During

During the service in the choir, an anthem suitable to the occasion was sung; and at the conclusion, a procession was made from thence to the grave, with the banners and bannerolls as before; the officers of arms preceding with the trophies; the body borne and attended as before: the choir singing "Man that is born of a woman," &c. and the three following sentences. The chief mourner, with his supporters, and near them Garter, had seats at the east end of the grave; the train-bearer stood behind the chief mourner, and near him, the relations of the deceased. At the opposite end sat the right rev. the lord bishop of Lincoln, dean of the cathedral, attended by three canons residentiaries. A supporter of the pall stood at each angle. The assistant mourners, supporters of the canopy, and bearers of the bannerolls, on either side. On the right of the dean were the chaplains; on the left, the officers of the household of the deceased. The great banner was borne on the north, the banner of the deceased, as a knight of the bath, on the south of the grave; the standard and guidon behind the dean; the banner of emblems behind the chief mourner; the trophies in the angles.

Then the dean read "Forasmuch as it hath pleased Almighty God," &c. then the choir sung part of an anthem, "His body is buried in peace; but his name liveth evermore."

The service at the interment being over, Garter proclaimed the style; and the comptroller, treasurer, and steward of the deceased, breaking their staves, delivered the pieces to Garter, who threw them into the grave.

Upon a signal given from St. Paul's that the body was deposited, the troops being drawn up in Moorfields, the artillery fired their guns, and the infantry gave vollies, by corps, three times repeated.

The interment ended, the standard, banners, bannerolls, and trophies, were deposited on the table behind the chief mourner; and all persons in the procession retired.

During the whole of this solemn ceremony, the greatest order prevailed throughout the metropolis; and, as the remains of the much-lamented hero proceeded along, every possible testimony of sorrow and of respect was manifested by an immense concourse of spectators of all ranks. From the admiralty to the cathedral, the streets were lined with the several volunteer corps of London and Westminster, the militia and many other military bodies, both cavalry and infantry.

On the USE *of* SEA-COAL *in* LONDON FIRES.

AMONG the desiderata of antiquarian research we have yet to notice many of those minute details by which alone the

familiar lives and domestic economy of our ancestors are laid open.

The use of sea-coal, though a matter of no vast importance in regard to its history, undoubtedly deserves notice in a paper like this. The complaints of its unhealthy tendency, it will be found, have been made in almost every period since its introduction; and though in these days a sufficient substitute could not easily be found, its pernicious effluvia might not be an object totally unworthy the consideration of medical men.

Mr. Pennant, in whose works we frequently see a strong predilection for Welsh antiquities, asserts, "That coals were known to the Britons before the arrival of the Romans, who had not even a name for them: yet Theophrastus describes them very accurately at least three centuries before the time of Cæsar, and even says that they were used by workers in brass. It is highly probable that the Britons made use of them. It is certain they had a primitive name for this fossil, that of *glo:* and as a farther proof I may add, that a flint-axe, the instrument of the aborigines of our island, was discovered stuck in certain veins of coal, exposed to-day in Craig-y-Pyer in Monmouthshire."—(Tour in Wales, London, 1778, 4to, p. 16.)

Another of our writers, whose work in illustration of ancient manners has long been valued, runs into a different extreme. Bishop Fleetwood (Chron. Preciosum, ed. 1707, p. 118) says, "That, whenever coals are mentioned in old accompts, we are to understand charcoal, and not sea-coal, which has not been in common use (as well as I can guess) an hundred and fifty years, at least not in London; though I find them in Matthew Paris, under the name of *carbo marinus*, in the time of Henry III. in additament."

The application of coal (or *carbo*, as it is called in the Latin of the middle ages) to charcoal seems correct; since wherever sea-coal occurs, *carbo* has usually the adjunct of *marinus*: as in the wardrobe-accompts of the 28th of Edward I. 1300, where *carbones marini* occur among the garrison-stores of Roxborough-Castle.

In 1234, when Henry III. confirmed the charter of his father to Newcastle-upon-Tyne, he gave the townsmen, on their supplication, licence to dig coals and stones in the common soil without the walls, called the Castle Moor, and to convert them to their own profit, in aid of their fee-farm rent of an hundred pounds a-year. "This," says Dr. Anderson, "is the first mention of coals dug at Newcastle, which were then probably confined as fuel to the use of the town; for the city of London had at that time, as may be easily gathered from the Domesday Survey, so many woods and copses round it, and the carriage both by land and water was so cheap, that coals from Newcastle would have been far more expensive than the wood and turf-fuel from its own neighbourhood.

The

The historiographers of London relate, that, in Edward I.'s reign, sea-coal was in so much request with several of the city-trades, as diers, brewers, &c. that, on the complaint of the nobility and gentry that they could not go to London on account of the noisome smell and thick air, the king issued a proclamation, forbidding the use of it, even in the suburbs, on pain of fine, loss of furnaces, &c.—Those trades, however, finding the scarcity and price of wood-fuel daily increasing, discovered it was still their interest to use sea-coal; and, notwithstanding the prohibition, entered on the trade with Newcastle. In 1357 the townsmen's licence to dig coal was increased by a special grant from the crown of the soil in which they had before only liberty to dig; and in 1379 the trade had grown so considerable, that Edward III. imposed a duty of sixpence a ton, each quarter of the year, on all ships from Newcastle laden with coals. Such was the introduction of sea-coal to common use. Mr. Evelyn, in his Fumifygium, written in the reign of Charles II. proposed the removal of such trades as required great fires five or six miles out of London, towards Greenwich; also of slaughter-houses and tallow-chandlers; and to plant fragrant nurseries and gardens in the low-grounds round the city. But whatever projects may hereafter arise, it is to be feared sea-coal will still maintain its ground.

INTERESTING TRIAL.

COURT of COMMON PLEAS.

Sittings at Nisi Prius before the Lord Chief Justice Mansfield, and a Special Jury, February 20.

COURTS MARTIAL.

Moore v. Bastard.

MR. Serjeant Shepherd stated that the plaintiff in this action, Francis Moore, Esq. was lately colonel of the Bedfordshire militia, and he sought, through the gentlemen who were now impannelled for the purposes of justice, less to recover pecuniary recompence for the injury he had sustained, than to vindicate his honour and rectitude, and to prevent the attachment to his character, of that opprobious inference, to which the conduct towards him, of the parties against whom he appealed, was likely to give rise.

The defendant, John Pollexfen Bastard, esq. was colonel of the Devonshire militia, and was selected to bring this action against, as being the president, and, therefore, most prominent constituent, of a court martial, all the members of which were

really no less implicated than he was, in the offensive measures which the plaintiff complained of.

The regiment of which the plaintiff was colonel, was in a state of some confusion and dissention, in April last, at the period that he, after having been some time absent, rejoined it at Exeter; and in consequence of a disregard to an order, which he found it expedient to issue, for the purpose of restoring regularity, the plaintiff preferred a charge against some of the officers in that channel, which led to the appointment of a court martial, for the investigation of their conduct.

The members of the court entered upon their functions at Exeter, in August, and the prosecutor adduced the evidence he thought necessary to substantiate the charges he had preferred. In the course of the evidence, one of the witnesses (Serjeant Warden, who was called by the prosecutor), in reply to an interrogatory of the court, as to the particular officers present at the reading of a certain regimental order, mentioned, amongst others, the name of Captain Gastin. When he had given his testimony, he recollected that Captain Gastin really was not present; and mentioned to the counsel retained by the prosecutor, that he feared he had been guilty of inadvertence in mentioning that gentleman's name with the others, and wished he might have an opportunity of explaining; but the counsel considered it too trifling a circumstance to trouble the court with. However, as the evidence was proceeded in, Captain Trelawny, an officer of the regiment, stated, that Captain Gastin was on leave of absence, at the time the serjeant had represented him to have been present at the reading of the regimental order, and did not rejoin the regiment until several days after; and this was proved by the return books. The contradiction of evidence immediately struck the court as resulting from perjury on the part of Serjeant Warden, and subornation on that of the prosecutor, Colonel Moore; and, notwithstanding the explanation of the prosecutor's counsel, the president pronounced that the serjeant should be immediately committed to the guard-house, and the colonel put under arrest for having proceeded with the examinationn of a witness, whom he knew to have made a false deposition. Colonel Moore was, therefore, conducted to his lodgings, and kept under close arrest from Saturday until Monday, when a letter from the court informed him, that for the remainder of the time that he would continue under arrest, he might consider himself a prisoner at large.

This was the case on the part of the plaintiff, on which he grounded the plea of false imprisonment, in that he had not subjected himself to the punishment, nor had the court martial the power to inflict it.

In

In the course of the evidence, which was then called to prove the case,

Lord Chief Justice Mansfield took occasion to observe, upon the assumption of the fact by Mr. Serjeant Best (for the defendant), that courts martial had the power of committing persons into confinement; that it was a mistaken notion, and that no such discretion was delegated to them. By the 19th article of war, authority, it is true, is given to courts martial to commit persons, who, by an impropriety of conduct, may disturb or interrupt their proceedings, but no power was given to them arbitrarily to commit witnesses; nor did even this court possess so great an authority.

Mr. Serjeant Best, addressing the jury, observed, that the reserve of experienced and respectable witnesses which he had, expecting to have availed himself of their evidence, would not now benefit the defendant's case, as the high law authority, the chief justice of this court had just decided that courts martial had no authority to put persons under arrest. His ground of defence was, therefore, narrowed; but the jury would take into their consideration, that the defendant and his compeers, in exercising a power which it was now determined they were not invested with, had fallen into an error which had prevailed, and that universally, during the memory of the oldest witness whom it would be possible to produce. Should they find a verdict for the plaintiff, this consideration would have weight with them in estimating damages. The possibility of any improper motive having existed to induce the steps taken by the gentlemen of the court martial, was not admissible, nor was it urged. The defendant was unknown to them, and in their conduct towards him, they were only led astray by a zeal, which it now seems was excessive, for the the good of the service in which they were engaged.

Lord Chief Justice Mansfield reviewed the case; and said, that the verdict of the jury must be for the plaintiff, as the arrest, in this case, was totally illegal. It was rather strange, he observed, that courts martial should think themselves authorised to commit persons for perjury, or other offences, than those upon which they had themselves the power of deciding and punishing. He would ask, for how long, and where, they would commit persons, and how their authority was at all to be defined? If the statutes by which courts martial are regulated, had been properly attended to, no such idea could ever have been entertained, with regard to the extent of their powers. His lordship thought the court had proceeded harshly with the plaintiff and Serjeant Warden; and in looking at the damages, the jury should consider how unpleasant and hurtful a situation it must be to an officer of rank, to be arrested on charges so serious as those which were alledged against him.

The

The jury retired about a quarter of an hour, and brought in a verdict for the plaintiff, damages 300l.

A British Officer's Account of his Visit to Syracuse.

SYRACUSE lies on the south-west part of the island of Sicily, and was once its capital, but is at present greatly reduced. The harbour is well defended by strong batteries, and is extremely secure and capacious. The inn to which we were conducted by our pilot, and which I believe to be the only one in the town, had a most discouraging external appearance, but the accommodations were not to be complained of: the landlord is a priest; but from the extravagance of his bills I should much doubt of his being a conscientious one: we gave him, however, what we understood to be reasonable, with which, though he affected to murmur, I dare say he was in reality well satisfied.

The principal objects shewn as curiosities here, are the church of St. Lucia, the well of Arethusa, and the cave of Dionysius: six large pillars, the relicts of a temple formerly dedicated to Minerva, form part of the present church of St. Lucia, the front of which pleased me as a beautiful piece of architecture more than any thing I had ever seen. In the church are some antiques, which I did not think very curious, though they are preserved with great care, and shewn with equal ostentation by the priests. The well of Arethusa was formerly supposed to possess the power of inspiring courage, and the inhabitants are said constantly to have drank of it prior to their going to war; at present it has the appearance of a common horse pond, and I should hardly think it retains any of its heroic particles, at least if it does, I suppose the application must be external, for when I saw it there were standing in it about thirty old women, washing a sufficient quantity of dirty linen to cause what Falstaff calls "a villainous compound of horrid smells." The cave of Dionysius is said to have been a prison excavated in the rock by order of that tyrant whose name it bears, and so constructed as to enable him to hear, from an apartment over the door, the lowest whisper; and as these whispers were generally murmurings at his oppression, they were followed by the severest punishments that ingenuity could devise or barbarity inflict.

We introduced ourselves to the inhabitants of Syracuse in a manner which, unexplained, would stamp us as the most unblushing mortals that England, or even her sister kingdom (more remarkable for that species of modest assurance), ever produced. After getting our dinner at the inn, we enquired of our host if there were any public amusements, and, as well as

we could interpret his language, understood that they were all suspended on account of the funeral of a nobleman, which was to take place that evening. We accordingly sallied forth with the intention of seeing the procession and ceremony, and soon finding a house at the door of which were a number of carriages, flambeaux, &c. we boldly entered, nothing doubting but that the body was there lying in state; but upon being shewn into a room, we were thunder-struck to find a large party as merry as heart could wish, and doing ample justice to a sumptuous supper. We were instantly and most politely welcomed by the owner of the house, whom we learnt to be the marquis de Castalentini; the marquis de Gargallo, governor of the town, also introduced himself to us, and requested we would dine with him on the following day: they further desired to conduct us, after supper, to the house of another nobleman, where there would be a *conversazione*, or rout. To this we accordingly went, and were again most politely received. There were assembled more than an hundred people of both sexes, who sung, played at cards, and danced, 'till a late hour. We now learned that our landlord had intended to explain to us that there was no opera or other public amusement, on account of the death of the hereditary princess of Naples, for whom this was the last day of public mourning.

Here we met with a captain of the British navy, whose vessel was then lying in the harbour, who gave a public breakfast on board the following morning, at which were present most of the principal inhabitants, and amongst them several very pretty women. At the governor's dinner, which followed close upon the heels of the breakfast, were upwards of forty persons: the table was furnished with a number of made-dishes, and a very large assortment of painted boards; it was in fact so little to my taste, that I secretly congratulated myself upon having secured a hearty breakfast. The governor, however, is a man of very polished manners, and is the same person who, a few years since, so gallantly defended the capital of the island of Elba against the French. A French general and his aid-de-camp were also at table: the former had lost a leg in Egypt: they were pleasant men. The dinner (I mean the eating) lasted full three hours, when the company rose and separated.—In the evening we again went to the *conversazione*, and were again most politely received and agreeably entertained.

LITERARY ANECDOTES.

RICHARDSON, the author of Clarissa, says in his letters, "Parson Young sat for Fielding's Parson Adams," (not the author of the Night Thoughts, but a translator of small capacity),

pacity) "a man he knew, and only made a little more absurd than he is known to be. The best story in the piece is of himself and his first wife. In his Tom Jones, his hero is made a natural child, because his own first wife was such. Tom Jones is Fielding himself, hardened in some places, softened in others. Lady Bellaston is an infamous woman of his former acquaintance. His Sophia is again his first wife. Booth, in his last piece, is again himself. Amelia, even to her *uselessness*, is again his first wife. His brawls, his jars, his gaols, his sponging houses are all drawn from what he has seen and known."

Richardson was subject to an unpleasant diffidence, when mixing with the world at large. The following mention of this failing, in one of his letters to Lady Bradshaigh, will be found to convey a lively idea of the author's manner: "You will find a man looking directly forewright, as passengers would imagine, but observing all that stirs on either hand of him, without moving his short neck; a regular, even pace; stealing away ground rather than seeming to rid it; a grey eye, too often overclouded by mistiness from the head; by chance lively, very lively if he sees any he loves. If he approaches a lady, his eye is never fixed first on her face, but on her feet, and rears it up by degrees, seeming to set her down as so, or so."

His nervous disorders, brought on by application, embittered his last years, and hastened his death. Extreme temperance, and the best medical aid, were both insufficient to counteract the evils created by sedentary habits.

Every writer has his peculiar methods of composing. Richardson professes to write without any regular system: letter produced letter; and one incident grew upon the consequences of another; like the French flower-painter, who never plans his *bouquet*, but intermingles the rose, the tulip, and the jessamine, as fancy prompts, or the powers of contrast prescribe. He wrote chiefly before breakfast, and held a small piece of board in his hand, on which he placed his paper.

The most pleasing part of his character remains to be mentioned—unbounded generosity. He sent Aaron Hill a hundred pounds on an emergency; ten pounds recovered from a suspicious debtor at Dublin, he requests his friend to divide among his parishioners, in a hard and sterile season. When Boswell asked Johnson, what he recollected of Mr. Richardson? Johnson's memory furnished him with little to reply. It is to be lamented, that no friend was then empowered to whisper, "Richardson bailed you from a prison, when you were poor, sick, and hopeless!"

Natural History of the Slow-Legged Beetle.

A Specimen of this beetle was taken by the learned Mr. Baker, a member of the royal society, amongst several others, out of a tub in which there was only left the muddy sediment of rain water. It was put into spirits of wine, and in a few minutes appeared to be quite dead. On being taken out of this, it was shut up in a box, and deposited in a drawer, where it remained unnoticed for more than two months.

When Mr. Baker opened the box, at the end of this time, he found that it was still alive and vigorous, though it appeared to have taken no food during its whole confinement, and had received no air but what could be had in a very small and close box. It was again plunged in spirit, and for a much longer time than before, but at the end of a month afterwards was (in the same box) found again alive. From having thus existed three months without sustenance, and survived immersions that prove fatal to nearly all other insects, Mr. Baker began to fancy that this creature possessed powers of life that were either altogether unknown, or at least very unusual in the race. It was a third time immersed, and was suffered to remain all night in the spirits, but on the following day, after having been out a little while, it was as lively and active as if nothing extraordinary had taken place.

It was now no more put into spirits, but was placed under a glass; and it lived there above two years and a half without having eaten any thing whatever. Food was indeed at different times put to it, but this was never in the least diminished; and for at least twelve months the little animal was entirely without aliment.

The insect was usually observed with its head close to the bottom of the glass, as if drawing in air; and on removing the glass it always appeared robust and vigorous, and attempted to run away. In cold weather it becomes somewhat torpid.

A QUESTION, *by S. Phillips, late an Assistant in Mr. Chivers's School, St. Austell.*

FROM what's underwritten fam'd artists expound,
The name of a statesman that's greatly renown'd.

$$x+y+z=45$$
$$xy+z=114$$
$$x^2y^2z^2=4665600.$$

Where the respective values of x, y, and z, shew the alphabetical places of the letters composing the name of this great statesman.

Answer, by Rusticus, of Awliscombe, to W. Bickham's Rebus, inserted October 21.

HECKLA will, if I am right,
Your burning mountain bring to sight.

Answer, by R. Perring, of Kingsbridge, to Devoniensis's Rebus, inserted Jan. 6.

THE beast, kind Sir, 'tis plain and true,
Is what you meant, the harmless EWE.

☞ We have received a similar answer from T. Trobridge, of Plymouth; H. Glasson, of Crowan; J. Whittle, of Upway; W. England, and J. Waldron, of Lyme Regis; Rusticus, of Awliscombe; Palemon, and W. Varcoe, of Mevagissey; J. Light, of Sherborne; J. Rowden, jun. of Heytesbury; J. Woodman, jun. of North Curry; T. Burseus, of Devonshire; P. Codd, of Dean Prior; J. Day, of Winborne; Thomas Coumbe, of St German's; G. Hann, jun. of Stoke Abbot; G. A. F. Arden, of South Petherton; Clericus, St. Austell; W. Bickham, jun. of Ashburton; and Adrianus.

A CHARADE, *by T. Rutger, of Clowance.*

INGENIOUS riddlers, first produce,
A something which is much in use;
My second if you right explain,
You'll find to be an evergreen:
My trifling whole to me a treasure,
I oft enjoy when at my leisure.

A CHARADE, *by Palemon, of Mevagissey.*

MY first existed, Sirs, when all
The grandeur of this rolling ball
In waters sunk from view;
An English admiral pray expound
That sail'd the spacious world around,
My whole's a plant, adieu!

A REBUS, *by Devoniensis.*

A Jewish king pray first define:
A title of the god of wine;
A prince of Cyprus next unfold,
Who hung himself for love, 'tis told;
A son of Neptune last explain,
Who by fam'd Hercules was slain:
Ye bards, combine the initials true,
A Jewish month will come to view.

A REBUS, *by R. Perring, of Kingsbridge.*

A Warrior great you'll first explain,
That was by beauteous Paris slain;
And next, ye gents. that youth define,
That to a daffodil did pine;
Ulysses' son add last by Penelope,
His father's joy, his mother's hope:
My busy whole is often seen
On stony plain, or verdant green.

POETRY.

For the WEEKLY ENTERTAINER.

The BULWARKS *of* BRITAIN.

WRITTEN ON NEW YEAR'S DAY, 1806.

BRITANNIA see! how each revolving year
Proves thee the mistress of the wat'ry sphere.
Another's fled; and midst its rapid flight
Hast th u not prov'd thy naval strength, thy might?
Thou hast: with pride Trafalgar's name I write,
And Strachan's conquest, and great Nelson's fight.
The western wave in Gallic blood is dy'd;
Amidst her surge, and on her rolling tide,
Old England's foes are scatter'd far and wide.
Nelson! thou first of chiefs, best prop that e'er
Supported Britain midst a dubious war;
Immortal name! by deeds immortal won,
Ended in conquest, as it first begun;
Thy life—whose deeds have brighten'd England's page,
Glory of this, and boast of ev'ry age;
O godlike hero! conqu'ring thou hast bled,
Thou pride of Albion! of her foes the dread!
Thou favour'd chief! old Nile retains thy fame;
Denmark has trembled at thy dreaded name.
Trafalgar! here I heave a patriot's sigh,
I mourn the hero, boast the victory.
But would some pen, some pen inspired tell
How thou hast conq'ring liv'd, how conqu'ring fell,
But words are weak—can eloquence attain?
No: erudition's made the attempt in vain.
Howe! let thy name add beauty to my lay,
With praise I write the great, the glorious day,
When vanquish'd Frenchmen, then no longer proud,
Yielded to Britons, and to Britons bow'd.
Duncan! I need not to Batavia say,
Nor to her memory recall the day
When, venerable warrior valiant, brave,
Thou dash'd her sons indignant 'neath the wave.
But these are fallen. Lo! Britannia sighs
That deeds like their's should not immortalize.
She weeps: such losses who unmov'd can bear?
All to their memory consecrate a tear.
'Tis not despair that damps Britannia's eye;
'Tis gratitude, respect, that heaves the sigh.
She yet has heroes, heroes not a few,
As brave, as valiant, as e'er ocean knew.

Thou foul usurper of a princely throne!
Which vice, which fraud, which perfidy have won,
Boast not, barbarian! 'cause thy rival's slain,
Nor think thee foremost on the lists of fame.
Remember Acre! Think on Sydney's arm,
And canst thou rest secure from each alarm?
No, tyrant, tremble! when thine eye shalt meet,
In Egypt's clime, thy base, thy foul defeat;

Thou

Thou vainly boasted an unconquer'd flag,
Which British valour cast to earth a rag.
But here again the muse feels cause to mourn—
Reflection points to Abercromby's urn.
O sacred name! How oft, by thee inspir'd,
Has warlike ardour every bosom fir'd!
How oft by thee have British troops led on,
Acquir'd fresh glory, and fresh laurels won.
Victory and conquest pav'd the paths he trod,
And death but join'd him to the living God.
Hood! let thy name with emulation fire
Each patriot youth, and bid their souls aspire
To deeds like thine, at once heroic, brave,
To fight, to conquer, and the conquer'd save.
Jervis! thy deeds without my verse will shine;
And future ages will to thee assign
A place conspicuous in warlike fame;
Thousands unborn shall lisp thy honour'd name;
Bow then thine head, let England round it twine,
Favours, St. Vincent, honourably thine.
Bridport! thou claim'st a thankful nation's praise;
Let then my pen a generous tribute raise,
To thee, thou guardian of thy country's laws,
Thou brave asserter of her injur'd cause!
Cornwallis lives; and in his breast a flame,
Fir'd by ambition, fann'd by love of fame,
Hath taught proud Gaul to venerate the might
Of Albion's prowess, and her sons in fight.
I hail thee Collingwood—thy honour'd name
By martial deeds allied to noble fame.
Live, conqu'ring live, the guardian of our coasts;
Britannia still in thee a Nelson boasts.
Was I the guardian of the tree of fame
On its fair branches I would gild the name
Of Elphinston, Northesk, and Strachan, you
Of Warren, Hotham, and of brave Pellew.
But all are heroes, every British tar
Has rode triumphant in Bellona's car.
Neptune to England hath his trident left,
And Mars hath sanction'd and confirm'd the gift.
Shall Britons stain it? No: the boasted name
Of ocean's sovereign she'll with pride retain;
She'll prove to worlds, whatever fate befalls,
Britons strong bulwarks are her wooden walls.

Camborne, Cornwall. J. B.

SONNET *to* MUSIC.

SWEET governess of sounds! thou canst controul
The jarring passions, thro' the list'ning ear!
Ev'n anger passes in his mad career,
And owns thy magic influence o'er the soul!
Backward wrath's ebbing tide begins to roll;
Grief's clouds disperse; the mental sky grows clear;
Joy's coruscations cheer despair's dark pole,
And hope and light, at thy approach, appear.
Behold yon humble minstrel of thy band,
Whose pipe resounds along the echoing street;
Tho' void of sight, yet skilful is his hand,
And tender is the tune he plays, and sweet;
His heart is blithe, his countenance is bland—
O happy art! that can misfortune cheat!